

dünnte sich wegen seiner größeren Schwere unten ansammelt und durch den Hahn entfernt werden kann. 3) Sämmtliche Praeparate, ob groß oder klein, sind schließlich gleich gut conservirt. 4) Eine Vergeudung von Alcohol kann nicht stattfinden. 5) Der Alcohol wird ohne besondere Mühe durch die Filtration gereinigt. 6) Man hat das fortwährende Nachsehen nicht nöthig.

Alle diese Vorzüge, die natürlich bei einer großen Anzahl von Behältern am meisten hervortreten müssen, lassen sich in den Worten zusammenfassen, daß solche Behälter Zeit, Mühe und Geld sparen. Ist das angelegte Capital auch bedeutend, so muß es doch reichliche Zinsen tragen.

Adelaide, den 16. Juni 1883.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

July 25th, 1883. — 1. On the Myology of the Frilled Lizard (*Chlamydosaurus Kingii*) by Charles De Vis, B.A. The author does not find there is any special muscular mechanism connected with the reptiles habit of elevating the frill and of occasionally assuming the erect attitude. The function of the frill he regards as being partly to frighten assailants, partly to aid in the collection and concentration of the waves of sound. — 2. Descriptions of Australian *Microlepidoptera*, No. 9, by E. Meyrick, B.A. The paper continues the description of the *Oecophoridae*, bringing the number of Australian species of the family up to 179. — 3. Some remarks on the action of Tannin on Infusoria by Harry Gilliatt. Mr. Gilliatt points out with reference to a paper by Mr. H. J. Waddington, that the effect of the tannic acid on *Paramaecium aurelia* is to cause the elongation and discharge of the trichocysts, which form a dense fringe of slender rods all round the body. — Mr. Haswell exhibited a series of anatomical and Zoological preparations. — Mr. Macleay exhibited a living specimen of *Trachydosaurus asper*, brought by the Honorable P. G. King from the Narran country. — With respect to this Lizard, Professor Stephens read the following account written by Dampier, in 1699 (Voyages, vol. III. p. 122, Ed. 1703): — »A sort of Guanos are also found at Shark's Bay of the same shape and size with other guanos (described vol. I., p. 57), but differing from them in three remarkable particulars. For these had a larger and uglier head, and had no tail; and at the rump, instead of the tail there, they had a stump of a tail, which appeared like another head, but not really such, being without mouth or eyes. Yet this creature seemed by this means to have a head at each end. And which may be reckoned a fourth difference, the legs also seemed, all four of them, to be fore-legs, being all alike in shape and length, and seeming by the joints and bending to be made as if they were to go indifferently either head or tail foremost. They were speckled black and yellow, like toads, and had scales or knobs on their backs like those of crocodiles, plated on to the skin, or stuck into it as part of the skin. They are very slow in motion, and when a man comes nigh them they will stand still and hiss not endeavouring to get away. Their livers are also spotted black and yellow, and the body when opened hath a very unsavoury

smell. I did never see such ugly creatures anywhere but here« (at Shark's Bay). »The guanos I have observed to be very good meat, and I have often eaten of them with pleasure. But though I have eaten of snakes, crocodiles and allegators and many creatures that look frightfully enough, and there are but few that I should have been afraid to eat of if pressed by hunger, yet my stomach would scarce have served to venture upon these New Holland guanos, both the looks and the smell of them being so offensive.« The description of the lizard is accurate and picturesque, and the old buccaneer's estimate of its flesh is much the same as that of the Murrumbidgee aborigines, who look with extreme contempt upon those natives of the dry plains, who for want of better food are obliged to »patter kurragaly«. — Mr. Macleay also exhibited a specimen of *Strophura spinigera* Gray, a small lizard found in the pine scrubs of the interior, and reputed to be venomous. When irritated it ejects from pores in the tail, an acrid fluid, which, immediately on exposure to the air, becomes viscid. — Mr. Brazier, for Mr. J. F. Bailey, of Victoria, exhibited a specimen of *Bullimus acutus*, Muller, taken July 22, in a garden at Collingwood. This species has been introduced from France. — Mr. Fletcher exhibited specimens of a parasite, *Filaria macropi majoris*, or *F. Websteri* according to Cobbold, which is often to be met with inclosed in cysts about the distal end of the thigh bone, sometimes extending some way down the shank bone. Out of thirteen specimens, three males and one female shewed these parasites. They are referred to in Vol. II, p. 293 of Dr. Bennett's Wanderings in N. S. W. So far they do not seem to have been met with in any species of kangaroo but *M. major*.

3. Gesucht

wird zum alsbaldigen Eintritte ein Assistent (Dr. phil.) für das zootomische Laboratorium einer größeren deutschen Universität. Gehalt (bei 3—3½ stündiger Arbeitszeit während des Semesters) 900 Mark. Bewerbungen mit Curriculum vitae und Zeugnissen sind unter der Bezeichnung »Z. A. Oct.« bei der Redaction dieses Blattes einzureichen.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Necrolog.

Am 7. September starb in Drayton Beauchamp der Rev. Henry Harpur Crewe im Alter von 54 Jahren. Er war als Lepidopterolog, besonders als Kenner der britischen Eupitheciën rühmlichst bekannt.

Am 15. September starb in Gent der Prof. der Physik, Joseph (Ant. Ferd.) Plateau, bekannt durch seine Leistungen auf dem Gebiete der physiologischen Optik, der Hydrodynamik u. A., Vater des Professors der Zoologie an der gleichen Universität. Er war am 14. Oct. 1801 in Brüssel geboren, erblindete im Jahre 1842, war aber nachher noch mit seltener geistiger Energie thätig, indem er sich Experimentatoren erzog, die nach seinen Angaben verfahren für ihn sahen und beobachteten.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1883

Band/Volume: [6](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonymous

Artikel/Article: [2. Linnean Society of New South Wales 543-544](#)